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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 SYE-00 SIG-03 MMO-01
USSS-00 /058 R

DRAFTED BY M/CT: LHEYNIGER: IJG
APPROVED BY S - THE SECRETARY
M/CT - AMBASSADOR QUANTON
NEA - MR. SAUNDERS
NEA/PAB - MR. LUCIUS

-----035186 141155Z /12
Z 141123Z FEB 79 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS FLASH

AMEMBASSY KABUL FLASH
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD FLASH
AMCONSUL KARACHI FLASH
USCINCPAC FLASH
USICA WASHDC FLASH

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INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING AND MURDER OF AMBASSADOR DUBS

REF: (A) KABUL 1081 (NOTAL); (B) ISLAMABAD 1862 (NOTAL)

1. UNCLASSIFIED - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY SECRETARY VANCE AND PRESS
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GUIDANCE PREPARED BY DEPARTMENT FOR RELEASE EARLY

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FEBRUARY 14:

QUOTE: I CANNOT ADEQUATELY CONVEY MY SENSE OF SHOCK AND HORROR AT THE TRAGIC DEATH OF AMBASSADOR ADOLPH DUBS IN KABUL EARLY THIS MORNING AFTER HE WAS KIDNAPPED FROM HIS CAR BY TERRORISTS. THIS BRUTAL ACT OF VIOLENCE HAS TAKEN THE LIFE OF A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT AND A VALUED COLLEAGUE.

THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER, SPIKE DUBS DEMONSTRATED THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE. HE HAS GIVEN HIS LIFE SERVING HIS COUNTRY. HIS BRAVERY, SELF-SACRIFICE AND PERSONAL SENSE OF DUTY ARE QUALITIES OF WHICH WE ARE PROUD AND WHICH WE ALL STRIVE TO EMULATE. HIS DEATH ONLY CONFIRMS US IN OUR DETERMINATION TO WORK TO ELIMINATE THE MINDLESS VIOLENCE WHICH THREATENS OUR WORLD COMMUNITY.

ON BEHALF OF ALL HIS COLLEAGUES, I EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCE TO AMBASSADOR DUBS' FAMILY.
UNQUOTE

3. PRESS GUIDANCE:

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT REPORTS THAT THE US AMBASSADOR IN KABUL HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED AND MURDERED?

A: ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM OUR EMBASSY IN KABUL, AMBASSADOR ADOLPH DUBS WAS TAKEN HOSTAGE BY UNKNOWN TERRORISTS ABOUT 0845 KABUL TIME ON FEBRUARY 14. HE WAS BROUGHT TO THE HOTEL KABUL IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF THE CITY AND HELD IN A ROOM THERE BY TWO MEN. AMBASSADOR DUBS
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WAS TRAGICALLY KILLED LATER THAT DAY DURING AN ATTEMPT BY THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT TO SECURE HIS RELEASE BY FORCE.

Q: DID WE CONCUR IN THE AFGHAN DECISION TO STORM THE HOTEL ROOM?

A: NO. WE WERE IN DIRECT TOUCH WITH OUR EMBASSY THROUGHOUT THE INCIDENT. THE EMBASSY REPEATEDLY URGED THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT TO EXERCISE PATIENCE AND TO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THE AMBASSADOR'S RELEASE WITHOUT RECOURSE TO FORCE. THE

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AFGHAN AUTHORITIES DISREGARDED THIS REQUEST WHICH WAS
CONVEYED TO THEM IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS.

Q: HOW WAS HE KIDNAPPED?

A: HE WAS SEIZED FROM HIS CAR WHILE EN ROUTE FROM HIS
HOME TO WORK AT THE EMBASSY.

Q: WHO ARE THESE TERRORISTS AND WHAT DID THEY WANT?

A: WE DO NOT KNOW AT THIS TIME WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE.
THEY DEMANDED THAT THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT RELEASE THREE
AFGHAN RELIGIOUS FIGURES RECENTLY TAKEN INTO CUSTODY THERE.

Q: WHO KILLED THE AMBASSADOR?

A: THIS IS NOT CLEAR AT THIS TIME. VANCE

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